IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-4, 7, 8, 10, 11-14, 20-24, 27, 28, 30-32, 34, 40-42 and 49 as indicated in the following.

Please cancel claims 5, 6, 25 and 26 as indicated in the following.

Claims Listing:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a transport stream having ~~an unknown set of~~unknown transport characteristics
representable by characteristic values;

~~initializing a transport stream acquisition routine for~~ identifying the characteristic values
~~the set of transport characteristics that will allow synchronization between a~~
~~system and to the transport stream~~ using a transport stream acquisition routine that
iteratively selects a combination of characteristic values from a plurality of
possible combinations of characteristic values to determine a combination of
characteristic values for the transport characteristics that enables synchronization
to the transport stream.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying the characteristic
values~~the set of transport characteristics~~ includes identifying the characteristic values~~the set of~~
~~transport characteristics~~ in less than 10 seconds.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein identifying the characteristic
values~~the set of transport characteristics~~ includes identifying the characteristic values~~the set of~~
~~transport characteristics~~ in less than 2 seconds.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~initializing the transport stream~~
~~acquisition routine~~identifying the characteristic values includes initializing the transport stream
acquisition routine based upon a manually initiated request.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying the characteristic
values~~the set of transport characteristics~~ includes identifying a first combination of characteristic

values̶s̶e̶t̶ ̶o̶f̶ ̶t̶r̶a̶n̶s̶p̶o̶r̶t̶ ̶c̶h̶a̶r̶a̶c̶t̶e̶r̶i̶s̶t̶i̶c̶s̶ and determining if synchronization to the transport stream has been acquired <u>using the first combination of characteristic values</u>.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the unknown s̶e̶t̶ ̶o̶f̶ transport characteristics includes a bit ordering of a portion of data, wherein the transport stream includes a plurality of portions of data.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein a portion of data is 8 bits of data, and the bit ordering is one of the first bit of 8 bits of data being the most significant bit, or the last bit of the 8 bits of data being the most significant bit.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the unknown s̶e̶t̶ ̶o̶f̶ transport characteristics includes a latching edge of a clock signal used to sample the transport stream.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the unknown s̶e̶t̶ ̶o̶f̶ transport characteristics includes a polarity of a active logic level of an error signal transmitted as part of the transport stream.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the unknown s̶e̶t̶ ̶o̶f̶ transport characteristics includes a polarity of a transport packet start signal transmitted as part of the transport stream.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the unknown s̶e̶t̶ ̶o̶f̶ transport characteristics includes a polarity of a transport packet valid signal transmitted as part of the transport stream.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying <u>the characteristic values</u>t̶h̶e̶ ̶s̶e̶t̶ ̶o̶f̶ ̶t̶r̶a̶n̶s̶p̶o̶r̶t̶ ̶c̶h̶a̶r̶a̶c̶t̶e̶r̶i̶s̶t̶i̶c̶s̶ includes the s̶u̶b̶s̶t̶e̶p̶ determining if <u>a</u>[[the]] framer is locked to the transport stream.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the framer is locked to the transport stream if a predefined number of packets with a predefined start code are received.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the predefined number of packets are sequentially received.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the predefined number of packets are programmable.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the predefined number of packets is stored in a register.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the predefined start code is 47h.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for synchronizing to a transport stream ~~to a system~~, the method comprising

setting a first transport stream characteristic register to a first value;

setting a second transport stream characteristic register to a second value;

determining if a synchronization indicator is generated ~~by the system~~ within a first amount of time;

repeating the step of determining for a number of times when the synchronization indicator is generated, wherein synchronization is successful if a synchronization indicator is generated for the number of times;

changing the first transport stream register to have a third value when the synchronization indicator is not generated within the first amount of time, and repeating the steps of determining and repeating; and

changing the second transport stream register to have a fourth value when the synchronization indicator is not generated within the first amount of time, and repeating the steps of determining and repeating.

21. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a set of signals to provide a transport stream, the set of signals comprising [[an]] unknown [[set of]]transport characteristics representable by a set of characteristic values;

identifying the characteristic values using a transport stream acquisition routine that iteratively selects a combination of characteristic values from a plurality of possible combinations of characteristic values to determine a combination of characteristic values for the unknown transport characteristics that enables synchronization to the transport stream~~initializing a transport stream acquisition routine to identify the set of transport characteristics~~; and

synchronizing ~~a system~~ to the transport stream based [[upon]]at least in part on the identified characteristic values~~the set of transport stream characteristics~~.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein identifying the characteristic values~~initializing the transport stream acquisition routine~~ includes identifying the characteristic values~~the set of transport characteristics~~ in less than 10 seconds.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein identifying the characteristic values~~initializing the transport stream acquisition routine~~ includes identifying the characteristic values~~the set of transport characteristics~~ in less than approximately 2 seconds.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein ~~initializing the transport stream acquisition routine~~identifying the characteristic values includes initializing the transport stream acquisition routine based upon a manually initiated request.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The method of [[claim 1]]claim 21, wherein ~~initializing the set of transport characteristics includes identifying the set of transport characteristics and determining if a synchronization the system to the transport stream has been established~~identifying the characteristic values includes identifying a first combination of values for the set of transport characteristics and determining if synchronization to the transport stream has been acquired using the first combination of values.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the unknown ~~set of~~transport characteristics includes a bit ordering of a portion of data, wherein the transport stream includes a plurality of portions of data.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein a portion of data is 8 bits of data, and the bit ordering is one of the first bit of 8 bits of data being the most significant bit, or the last bit of the 8 bits of data being the most significant bit.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein the unknown ~~set of~~transport characteristics includes a latching edge of a clock signal used to sample the transport stream.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the unknown ~~set of~~transport characteristics includes a polarity of [[a]]an active logic level of an error signal transmitted as part of the transport stream.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein the unknown ~~set of~~ transport characteristics includes a polarity of a transport packet start signal transmitted as part of the transport stream.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein the unknown ~~set of~~ transport characteristics includes a polarity of a transport packet valid signal transmitted as part of the transport stream.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein ~~the step of~~ identifying the characteristic values~~the set of transport characteristics~~ includes determining if [[the]]a framer is locked to the transport stream.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the framer is locked to the transport stream if a predefined number of packets with a predefined start code are received.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the predefined number of packets are sequentially received.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the predefined number of packets are programmable.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the predefined number of packets is stored in a register.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the predefined start code is 47h.

40. (Currently Amended) A method of synchronizing to a transport stream ~~to a system~~, the method comprising

    setting a first register to a first value representing a first transport stream characteristic;

    setting a second register to a second value representing a second transport stream characteristic;

    determining if a transport stream synchronization indicator is generated ~~at a system~~ within a first amount of time;

    repeating the step of determining for a number of times when the transport stream synchronization indicator is generated, wherein synchronization to the system is successful if a synchronization indicator is generated for the number of times;

changing the first transport stream register to have a third value when the synchronization

indicator is not generated within the first amount of time, and repeating the steps

of determining and repeating; and

changing the second transport stream register to have a fourth value when the

synchronization indicator is not generated within the first amount of time, and

repeating the steps of determining and repeating.

41. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a set of signals carrying a transport stream, the set of signal<u>s</u> comprising a clock

signal and a data signal, the clock signal and the data signal having ~~an~~ unknown

characteristics;

assuming a set of characteristics to be the unknown characteristics;

receiving a data<u> stream from the set of signals</u> based upon the assumed set of

characteristics;<u> and</u>

~~determining if the data stream is a valid transport stream; and~~

~~when the data stream is not valid,~~ assuming as the set of characteristics a different set of

characteristics and repeating the steps of receiving the data and determining until

~~a valid~~<u>reception of a</u> transport stream is ~~determined~~<u>verified based at least in part</u>

<u>on the data stream</u>.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~unknown~~ set of

characteristics are based on at least one of a data input, a clock input, a start indicator input, a

valid indicator input, [[and]]<u>or</u> an error indicator input.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the first amount of time is a

predetermined amount of time.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the number of times is a

predetermined number of times.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the first amount of time is a

predetermined amount of time.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the first amount of time is a

predetermined amount of time.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the number of times is a predetermined number of times.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the first amount of time is a predetermined amount of time.

49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the unknown set of transport characteristics are based on at least one of a data input, a clock input, a start indicator input, a valid indicator input, and an error indicator input.